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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Disaster Preparedness sales tax holiday upcoming, take first steps

May 26, 2017 – June is fast approaching, as is the official start of hurricane season. Local and state officials urge residents to prepare now while the skies are blue.

Governor Rick Scott signed legislation designating a 2017 Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday from Friday June 2 through Sunday, June 4. During this sales tax holiday, items related to disaster preparedness are exempt from sales tax.

“We ask residents to have a number of emergency supplies ready, and this is the perfect time to take a look at what you have and replenish or replace these items,” said Flagler County Emergency Manager Steve Garten. “Remember to test things like flashlights and replace outdated batteries.”

The qualifying list of items includes the following: reusable ice packs; flashlights, lanterns and candles; fuel and kerosene containers; batteries (excluding automobile and boat); coolers and ice chests; tarps; ground anchor systems; tie-downs; bungee cords; two-way and weather band radios that are powered by battery, solar or hand-crank; and, portable generators selling for less than \$750 to be used for providing light, communications or to preserve food in the event of a power outage.

“Another thing we would to ask residents is to take a moment to do is to find out now, and write down their evacuation zones,” Garten said. “We have a link and instructions on our website and it will only take a minute to do.”

For the link to evacuation zones, go to www.flaglercounty.org/evac_zones. For additional information about the Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday, go to <http://www.floridarevenue.com/DisasterPrep/>.

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